

Remarks

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 11-13, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 22-24 were pending and rejected. Claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, and 17-18 have been amended, and claim 24 has been cancelled, without prejudice to pursue the original claims in a related application. Claims 26-29 are new. Support for the amendments may be found in the Specification as filed at least in paragraph [0042] and in FIG. 3 and FIG. 4. No new matter has been added. Thus, after entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 11-13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22-23 and 26-29 are currently pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kim et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,859,254), herein referred to as “Kim ‘254.”

Claims 1, 7, and 18, as amended, recite “wherein the opening window extends through the first insulation layer to the second insulation layer and comprises at least one intermediate portion of the first insulation layer positioned in between the interior edges of the opening window” (emphasis added). Claim 13, as amended, recites “wherein the opening window comprises at least one intermediate portion of the first insulation layer positioned in between the interior edges of the opening window” (emphasis added).

In contrast, Kim ‘254 discloses, with respect to FIG. 4, “the opening 162 may be formed to extend over at least two of the metal layers 124, and may extend over an entire sealing region of the transparent substrate 103 such that a relatively large area of the inorganic passivation layer 139 may be exposed” (Kim ‘254, Col. 5, lines 45-50). Similarly,

with respect to FIG. 5D, Kim '254 discloses "portions of the organic passivation layer 139 between adjacent ones of the metal layers 124 may be adjusted to increase a contact surface area of between the sealing material 122 and the organic passivation layer 139" (emphasis added) (Kim '254, Col. 7, lines 18-22). There is no disclosure that "the opening window" ... "comprises at least one intermediate portion of the first insulation layer positioned in between the interior edges of the opening window"(emphasis added) as recited in Claims 1, 7, 13, and 18.

Of the above-referenced claims, Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18 are independent. Accordingly, once allowability of these claims is established, all claims depending therefrom are likewise allowable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 6 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim '254 in view of Kim et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0036815), herein referred to as "Kim '815."

Claims 6 and 12 depend from independent Claims 1 and 7, respectively. Thus, once allowability of Claims 1 and 7 is established, Claims 6 and 12 are likewise allowable.

Kim '815 does not correct the defects of Kim '254 as Kim '815 does not disclose or suggest that "the opening window" ... "comprises at least one intermediate portion of the first insulation layer positioned in between the interior edges of the opening window" (emphasis added) as recited in Claims 1 and 7.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim '254 in view of Examiner's Official Notice. Claim 23 depends from Claim 7, which is allowable, and thus Claim 23 is likewise allowable.

Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim '254 in view of Kwak et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,862,069), referred to herein as "Kwak."

Claim 24 is cancelled. Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18 recite the limitation "wherein the opening window comprises at least one intermediate portion of the first insulating layer positioned in between the interior edges of the opening widow wherein the at least one intermediate portion consists primarily of the first insulation layer." (emphasis added).

In contrast, Kwak discloses "a plurality of dummy patterns" and states "these dummy patterns 36 preferably have a vertical structure similar to the gate links 15" and that "each of the gate links 15 and the dummy patterns 36 comprises a gate metal layer 16, a gate insulating layer 22, an amorphous silicon layer 24, an n-layer 26 and a protective film 28 that are formed on a transparent substrate 20" (Kwak, Col. 4, lines 19-25). Thus, Kwak does not disclose or suggest "the at least one intermediate portion consists primarily of the first insulation layer" as recited in Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18.

For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit independent Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18, and all claims depending therefrom are patentable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Authorization is given to charge any fees due or credit any

overpayments in regard to this communication to deposit account 50-5029. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (408) 331-1674 is welcomed and encouraged.

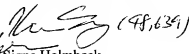
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